

shoreline of Lake Mattamuskeet, a natural freshwater lake of about 50,000 acres discovered in 1585. Its name is derived from a American Indian word that means “moving swamp” or “shallow lake.” This is appropriate, since the deepest point in the lake measures only five feet. Near the community of Lake Comfort is the intersection of U.S. 264 and N.C. 94, the southern terminus of the Alligator River Route (pg. 134).

From this intersection, travel 8.5 miles to Lake Landing. This area marks the state’s largest rural historic district. Watch closely for older buildings along this stretch, including the octagonal house known as the Ink Bottle House. In addition to the historical aspects of this section, observe the vast farmlands that attract numerous hunting clubs. Between the communities of New Holland and Lake Landing, Lake Mattamuskeet is visible on the left.

The community of New Holland, settled in 1910, was named for the development company that tried to drain Lake Mattamuskeet. Lake Landing was the site of the Hyde County courthouse from 1820 to 1836.

Watch for another sharp curve near the community of Amity, about four miles east of Lake Landing at the intersection of U.S. 264 and North Lake Road (S.R. 1311). From here, the byway turns away from the lake’s shore. **It is one mile to the village of Engelhard.** Located on Far Creek between Lake Mattamuskeet and the Pamlico Sound, Engelhard was first named Far Creek Landing. In 1874, Engelhard was given its current name in honor of the publisher

of the Wilmington newspaper. *NOTE: Engelhard is the last stop for restrooms or fuel until Manns Harbor, 40 miles away.*

Leaving Engelhard, look to the right to see the Pamlico Sound. **Continue on U.S. 264 through the wetlands and maritime forests of the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. From the Far Creek bridge, travel 11.5 miles to the Dare/Hyde County line.**

Stumpy Point Bay and the fishing village of Stumpy Point are 13 miles from the county line. Founded in 1733, the village is about two miles from U.S. 264.

